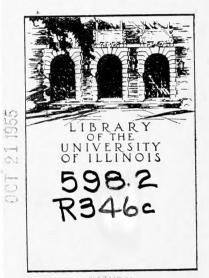
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# A CHECK LIST

OF

# RHODE ISEAND NESTING BIRDS

1908



NATURAL





## A CHECK LIST

OF

# RHODE ISLAND NESTING BIRDS

### WITH DATA

Published by

### THE COMMISSIONERS OF BIRDS

CHARLES H. REMINGTON, CHAIRMAN Providence Co.

WILLIAM H. THAYER Bristol Co.

ALEXANDER O'D. TAYLOR Newport Co.

EDWIN R. LEWIS Washington Co.

W. GORDON REED, 2ND Kent Co.

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PHOTO, BY J. H. FLANAGAN.

### NEST AND EGGS OF VIRGINIA RAIL,

Washington County R. I.



R3460 INTRODUCTION.

In compiling this list the assertion is not made that no birds other than those mentioned breed in this State. These records cover the period from 1890 to 1908, and have been gathered from reliable sources.

When making up this little book it was not considered advisable to accept hearsay evidence, nor to give credence to the records of any but those who are intimately acquainted with the habits of Rhode Island Birds.

Many birds are locally known by erroneous names. The Screech Owl, because it has long ear tufts, and also, as it frequently takes refuge in barns, is often called both "Long-cared Owl" and "Barn Owl." The Chipping Sparrow, which nests in trees, is called "Tree Sparrow," and the Flicker, owing to the red patch on the back of its head, is called "Redheaded Woodpecker." Many other local names, too numerous to mention, are used and it can readily be seen that such records require careful investigation. The fact that adult birds, or young able to, fly, have been seen during the breeding season, does not necessarily constitute a nesting record.

This is not a history of Rhode Island Birds, and no descriptions of birds, nests, or habits have been attempted. Only a list of the common and scientific names with a single nesting data for each has been given; and data have been used, for the most part, where more than one party have seen the nest in question. The letters A. O. U. and the number before the name of each species, refer to the check list of North American Birds of the American Ornithologists Union.

The greatest thanks is extended to those who have allowed the use of their records, but especially to John H. Flanagan (former Chairman of the Rhode Island Bird Commission), and Thomas L. Flanagan of Providence, who rank among the highest authorities on Rhode Island Birds, having established many breeding records; notably the Great Horned Owl and Long-eared Owl, two of the rarest nesters in this State.

This book is not an official report, and is published (in a limited number) at the personal expense of the Commission.



1 70 Common Tern.

Sterna hirundo.

Newport Co., July 11, 1903.

Nest on Cormorant Rock. Three eggs.

Small colony breeding.

J. H. Flanagan.

C. H. Remington.

2 133 Black Duck.

Anas rubripes.

Providence Co., May 21, 1903.

Nest on ground near pond.

Nine eggs.

C. E. Coffin.

3 190 American Bittern.

Botaurus lentiginosus.

Washington Co., June 13, 1908.

Nest on ground among rushes.

Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.

4 191 Least Bittern.

Ixobrychus exilis.

Washington Co., June 16, 1901.

Nest among rushes in marsh.

Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.

F. E. Newbury.

5 201 Green Heron.

Butorides virescens.

Providence Co., May 23, 1904.

Nest in birch, 20 feet up.

Five eggs.

T. L. Flanagan.



6 202 Black-crowned Night Heron.
Nycticorax nycticorax nævius.
Prudence Island, May 8, 1904.
Nest in maple in swamp. Five eggs.
Large colony breeding.

T. L. Flanagan. J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

7 212 Virginia Rail.
Rallus virginianus.
Washington Co., May 29, 1908.
Nest among rushes in marsh.
Seven eggs.

C. H. Remington.

- 8 228 American Woodcock.
  Philohela minor.
  Providence Co., May 17, 1903.
  Nest on ground in swamp.
  Four eggs. These hatched May 19.

  J. H. Flanagan.
- 9 263 Spotted Sandpiper.
  Actitis macularia.
  Kent Co., June 6, 1903.
  Nest in salt grass on shore.
  Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

10 273 Killdeer.
Oxyechus vociferous.
Kent Co., May 31, 1895.
Nest on ground in open field.
Four eggs.

F. E. Newbury.

11 277 Piping Plover.

Ægialitis meloda.

Washington Co., June 14, 1908.

Eggs on bare sand on beach.

Four eggs.



#### A.O.U

12 289 Bob-white.
Colinus virginianus.
Kent Co., June 20, 1903.
Nest beside rock in pasture.
Seventeen eggs.

C. H. Remington.

13 300 Ruffed Grouse.

Bonasa umbellus.

Kent Co., May 19, 1904.

Nest at foot of stump on side hill.

Fourteen eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

14 316 Mourning Dove.

Zenaidura macroura carolinensis.

Kent Co., May 25, 1902.

Nest in apple tree, 6 feet up.

Two eggs.

C. H. Remington.

15 331 Marsh Hawk.
Circus hudsonius.
Kent Co., May 23, 1904.
Nest on ground in swamp.
Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.
C. H. Remington.

16 332 Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Accipiter velox.

Providence Co., May 23, 1908.

Nest in pine tree, 27 feet up.

Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.

T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

17 333 Coopers Hawk.

Accipiter cooperii.

Kent Co., May 12, 1903.

Nest in chestnut tree, 55 feet.

Five eggs.

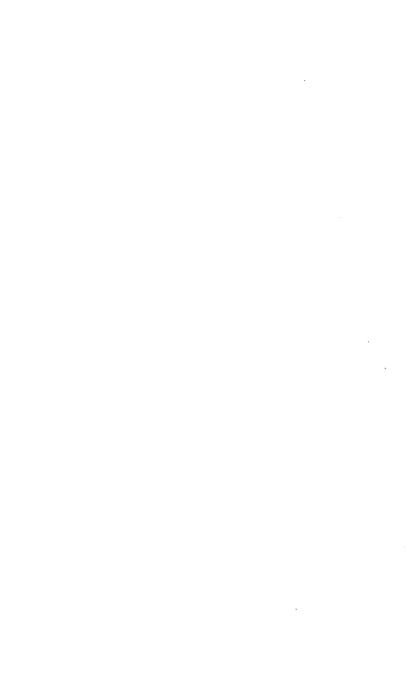
J. H. H.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.



#### A. O. IJ.

18. 337 Red-tailed Hawk. Buteo borealis. Kent Co., April 30, 1907. Nest in pine tree, 40 feet. Three eggs. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington. 19 339 Red-shouldered Hawk. Buteo lineatus... Providence Co., April 13, 1905. Nest in chestnut, 42 feet. Three eggs. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington. Broad-winged Hawk. 20 - 343Buteo platypterus. Kent Co., May 19, 1904. Nest in pine, 29 feet. J. H. Flanagan. Two eggs. C. H. Remington. 21360 Sparrow Hawk. Falco sparverius. Providence Co., May 10, 1905. Nest in old Flickers hole, 18 feet. Five eggs. J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington. 22 - 364American Osprev. Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis. Bristol Co., May 2, 1902. Nest in dead wild cherry, 20 feet. Three eggs. F. E. Newbury. C. H. Remington. 23 366Long-eared Owl. Asio wilsonianus. Kent Co., June 21, 1908. Nest in pine, 35 feet. Three young birds about three weeks old. T. L. Flanagan. Herbert Enos.



24 368 Barred Owl.

Strix varia.

Kent Co., April 12, 1906.

Nest in hole in dead maple, 10 feet.

Two eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

25 373 Screech Owl.

Otus asio.

Bristol Co., May 2, 1904.

Nest in hole in oak tree, 8 feet.

Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan.

C. H. Remington.

26 375 Great Horned Owl.

Bubo virginianus.

Providence Co., March 11, 1904.

Nest in hemlock, 41 feet.

One egg.

J. H. Flanagan.

T. L. Flanagan.

C. H. Remington.

27 387 Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

Coccyzus americanus. Providence Co., May 30, 1897.

Nest in apple tree, 6 feet.

Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.

T. L. Flanagan.

28 388 Black-billed Cuckoo.

Coccyzus erythropthalmus. Providence Co., May 27, 1897.

Nest in cedar, 4 feet up.

Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.



29 390 Belted Kingfisher.
Ceryle alcyon.
Kent Co., May 20, 1903.
Nest in hole in bank.
Seven eggs.

C. H. Remington.

30 393 Hairy Woodpecker.
Dryobates villosus.
Kent Co., May 12, 1904.
Nest in hole in live maple, 20 feet.
Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.

31 394c Northern Downy Woodpecker.
Dryobates pubescens medianus.
Providence Co., May 25, 1906.
Nest in hole in birch, 8 feet.
Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.

32 406 Red-headed Woodpecker.

Melanerpes erythrocephalus.

Providence Co., May 28, 1902.

Nest in hole in dead elm, 35 feet.

Four eggs.

F. E. Newbury.

33 412a Northern Flicker.
Colaptes auratus luteus.
Kent Co., May 19, 1904.
Nest in hole in dead stump, 8 feet.
Seven eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.C. H. Remington.



34 417 Whip-poor-will.

Antrostomus vociferus.

Providence Co., May 25, 1902.

No nest. Eggs on leaves on ground.

Two eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.

35 420 Nighthawk.

Chordeiles virginianus.

Kent Co., June 8, 1890.

No nest. Eggs on bare ground in field.

Two eggs.

C. H. Remington.

36 423 Chimney Swift.

Chætura pelagica.

Providence Co., July 1, 1904.

Nest on inside of chimney.

Three eggs.

T. L. Flanagan.

C. H. Remington.

37 428 Ruby-throated Hummingbird.

Trochilus colubris.

Kent Co., July 4, 1903.

Nest on apple branch, 10 feet.

Two eggs.

C. H. Remington.

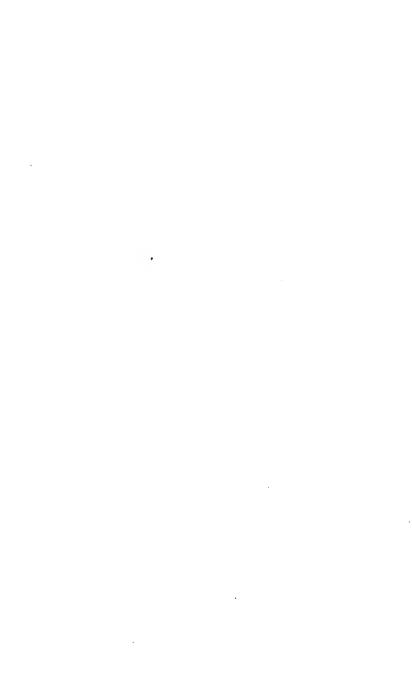
38 444 Kingbird.

Tyrannus tyrannus.

Kent Co., June 17, 1905.

Nest in apple tree, 9 feet.

Three eggs.



39 452 Crested Flycatcher.
Myiarchus crinitus.
Kent Co., June 6, 1906.
Nest in hole in apple tree.
Four eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

40 456 Phœbe.
Sayornis phœbe.
Kent Co., May 12, 1907.
Nest on shelf in deserted house.
Five eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

41 461 Wood Pewee.

Myiochanes virens.

Kent Co., June 30, 1905.

Nest in apple tree, 10 feet.

Two eggs...

J. H. Flanagan.C. H. Remington.

42 467 Least Flycatcher.
Empidonax minimus.
Providence Co., June 2, 1904.
Nest in apple tree, 18 feet.
Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

43 477 Blue Jay.

Cyanocitta cristata.

Providence Co., May 22, 1905.

Nest in alder, 10 feet.

Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.



44 488 American Crow.
Corvus brachyrhynchos.
Kent Co., April 23, 1905.
Nest in chestnut tree, 42 feet.
Seven eggs.

M. S. Sweet. C. H. Remington.

45 494 Bobolink.
Dolichonyx oryzivorus.
Providence Co., May 30, 1904.
Nest in tall grass in meadow.
Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

46 495 Cowbird.

Molothrus ater.
Providence Co., June 2, 1904.
Nest of Yellow Warbler in bush.
Contained one egg Cowbird, four Warbler.
T. L. Flanagan.

C. H. Remington.

47 498 Red-winged Blackbird.
Agelaius phœniceus.
Washington Co., June 16, 1905.
Nest attached to reeds in marsh.
Three eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

48 501 Meadow Lark.
Sturnella magna..
Providence Co., May 30, 1904.
Nest in grass tuft in meadow.
Three eggs and one young bird.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington



49 506 Orchard Oriole.

Icterus spurius.

Bristol Co., June 3, 1894.

Nest in pear tree in orchard.

Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.

50 507 Baltimore Oriole. Icterus galbula. Providence Co., May 28, 1897. Nest in apple tree, 15 feet. Six eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.

51 511 Purple Grackle.
Quiscalus quiscula.
Washington Co., June 6, 1906.
Nest attached to reeds in marsh.
Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.

52 511b Bronzed Grackle.
Quiscalus quiscula æneus.
Providence Co., May 9, 1905.
Nest in fir tree, 30 feet.
Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.

53 517 Purple Finch.
Carpodacus purpureus.
Providence Co., June 8, 1894.
Nest in apple tree, 15 feet.
Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.



54 529 American Goldfinch.
Astragalinus tristis.
Kent Co., August 7, 1904.
Nest in small maple in swamp.
Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.

55 540 Vesper Sparrow.
Poœcetes gramineus.
Kent Co., May 27, 1906.
Nest on ground in meadow.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

56 542a Savanna Sparrow.

Passerculus sandwichensis savanna.

Washington Co., May 29, 1908.

Nest on ground on edge of marsh.

Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.

57 546 Grasshopper Sparrow.
Coturniculus savannarum australis.
Kent Co., May 30, 1908.
Nest on ground in field.
Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. Herbert Enos.

58 549 Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

Ammodramus caudacutus.

Washington Co., July 14, 1907.

Nest in tuft of grass in salt marsh.

Three eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.



59 550 Seaside Sparrow.

Ammodramus maritimus.

Washington Co., July 14, 1907.

Nest in grass, over water, in salt marsh.

Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

60 560 Chipping Sparrow.
Spizella passerina.
Kent Co., June 15, 1907.
Nest in apple tree, 6 feet up.
Four eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

61 563 Field Sparrow.
Spizella pusilla.
Providence Co., June 11, 1905.
Nest in low bush in pasture.
Four eggs.

E. J. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

62 581 Song Sparrow.

Melospiza melodia.

Providence Co., May 7, 1905.

Nest on ground among dead leaves.

Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.C. H. Remington.

63 584 Swamp Sparrow.
Melospiza georgiana.
Washington Co., May 31, 1908.
Nest in grass tuft in swamp.
Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. Herbert Enos. C. H. Remington.



64 E.S. English Sparrow.
Passer domesticus.
Providence Co., May 2, 1904.
Nest in vine on side of house.
Five eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

65 587 Towhee.
Pipilo erythrophthalmus.
Kent Co., June 3, 1906.
Nest on ground near road.
Four eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

66 595 Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

Zamelodia ludoviciana.

Kent Co., June 4, 1904.

Nest in small oak, 15 feet.

Three eggs.

C. H. Remington.

67 598 Indigo Bunting.
Passerina cyanea.
Providence Co., June 11, 1905.
Nest in hazel bush in pasture.
Four eggs.

E. J. Flanagan.C. H. Remington.

68 608 Scarlet Tanager.

Piranga<sub>l</sub> erythromelas.

Klent Co., June 5, 1906.

Nest in apple tree, 8 feet.

Three eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.



69 611 Purple Martin.
Progne subis.
Washington Co., June 4, 1906.
Nest in bird-house near house.
Eggs inaccessible.

J. H. Flanagan.

70 612 Cliff Swallow.
Petrochelidon lunifrons.
Kent Co., July 16, 1894.
Nest under eaves of barn.
Three eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.

71 613 Barn Swallow.
Hirundo erythrogaster.
Kent Co., May 30, 1903.
Nest on rafter of old barn.
Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

72 614 Tree Swallow.
Iridoprocne bicolor.
Kent Co., May 30, 1902.
'Nest' in hole in dead stump.
Six eggs.

C. H. Remington.

73 616 Bank Swallow.
Riparia riparia.
Kent Co., June 6, 1903.
Nest in hole in bank.
Six eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.



74 619 Cedar Waxwing.

Bombycilla cedrorum.

Kent Co., June 20, 1903.

Nest in apple tree, 12 feet.

Five eggs.

C. H. Remington.

75 624 Red-eyed Vireo.
Vireosylva olivacea.
Kent Co., June 6, 1906.
Nest in small oak in woods.
Four eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

76 627 Warbling Vireo.
Vireosylva gilva.
Providence Co., May 28, 1903.
Nest in pear tree.
Four eggs.

H. S. Hathaway.

77 628 Yellow-throated Vireo.
Lanivireo flavifrons.
Providence Co., June 2, 1904.
Nest in maple tree, 10 feet.
Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

78 629 Blue-headed Vireo.

Lanivireo solitarius.

Kent Co., June 6, 1906.

Nest in laurel, 8 feet.

One egg and one young bird.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington



79 631 White-eyed Vireo.
Vireo griseus.
Providence Co., June 3, 1902.
Nest in hazel bush, 4 feet.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.

80 636 Black and white Warbler.
Mniotilta varia.
Providence Co., May 23, 1908.
Nest on ground in swampy woods.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

81 645 Nashville Warbler.
Helminthophila rubricapilla.
Kent Co., May 22, 1906.
Nest on ground under small shrub.
Five eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

82 648a Northern Parula Warbler.
Comsothlypis americana usneæ.
Kent Co., June 5, 1905.
Nest in clump of usnea moss.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

83 652 Yellow Warbler.
Dendroica æstiva.
Providence Co., June 4, 1905.
Nest in apple tree, 15 feet.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.T. L. Flanagan.C. H. Remington.

84 659 Chestnut-sided Warbler.
Dendroica pensylvanica.
Providence Co., June 4, 1905.
Nest in hazel bush near road.
Three eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

85 667 Black-throated Green Warbler.
Dendroica virens.
Providence Co., June 10, 1897.
Nest on oak branch, 7 feet.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan.

86 673 Prairie Warbler.
Dendroica discolor.
Providence Co., June 14, 1906.
Nest in scrub oak in pasture.
Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

87 674 Ovenbird.
Seiurus aurocapillus.
Kent Co., May 30, 1905.
Nest on ground in pine grove.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

88 675 Water-Thrush.
Seiurus noveboracensis.
Washington Co., May 19, 1907.
Nest in roots of upturned tree.
Two eggs and two Cowbird's eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. H. S. Hathaway.



89 676 Louisiana Water-Thrush.
Seiurus motacilla.
Providence Co., May 28, 1898.
Nest on bank of brook in woods.
Five eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.

90 681 Maryland Yellowthroat. Geothlypis trichas. Kent Co., June 5, 1905. Nest in grass tuft in marsh. Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan.C. H. Remington.

91 683 Yellow-breasted Chat. Icteria virens. Kent Co., June 13, 1907. Nest in huckleberry bush. Three eggs.

C. H. Remington.

92 687 American Redstart.
Setophaga ruticilla.
Providence Co., June 13, 1905.
Nest in small elm in woods.
Four eggs.

J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Remington.

93 704 Catbird.

Dumetella carolinensis.

Kent Co., June 7, 1902.

Nest in sweetbriar near brook.

Four eggs.

C. H. Remington.



Brown Thrasher. 705 94 Toxostoma rufum. Providence Co., June 4, 1905. Nest in huckleberry bush. Four eggs. J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Reminaton. 721 House Wren. 95 Troglodytes aëdon. Kent Co., May 21, 1904. Nest in hole in apple tree, 10 feet. C. H. Reminaton. Seven eggs. 96 722Winter Wren. Nannus hiemalis. Washington Co., May 24, 1908. Nest in roots of upturned tree. Four young birds about one week old. J. H. Flanagan. H. S. Hathaway. A. C. Bent. 72597 Long-billed Marsh Wren. Telmatodytes palustris. Washington Co., June 16, 1905. Nest attached to rushes in marsh. Five eggs. J. H. Flanagan. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Reminaton. 72798 White-breasted Nuthatch. Sitta carolinensis. Kent Co., May 22, 1906. Nest in hole in oak, 20 feet. Six eggs. W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington. 99 735Chickadee. Penthestes atricapillus. Providence Co., May 18, 1907. Nest in hole in birch stump. Five eggs. T. L. Flanagan. C. H. Reminaton.



100 755 Wood Thrush.
Hylocichla mustelina.
Kent Co., June 6, 1906.
Nest in birch, 8 feet up.
Three eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

101 756 Wilson's Thrush.

Hylocichla fuscescens.

Washington Co., May 31, 1908.

Nest on ground in swampy woods.

Four eggs.

T. L. Flanagan. Herbert Enos. C. H. Remington.

759b Hermit Thrush.
 Hylocichla guttata pallasii.
 Kent Co., June 6, 1907.
 Nest on ground in dry pine woods.
 Three eggs.

W. A. Angell. C. H. Remington.

103 761 American Robin.
Planesticus migratorius.
Washington Co., May 26, 1905.
Nest in alder in swamp.
Five eggs.

C. H. Remington.

104 766 Bluebird.
Sialia sialis.
Kent Co., April 20, 1902.
Nest in hole in apple tree.
Six eggs.

C. H. Remington.



105 214 Sora Rail

Porzana carolinensis Washington Co. R. I. June II, 1909. Nest among cat-tails, over water. Seven eggs.

C. H. Remington

- HIT NOTA IVALL
- 219 Florida Gallinule.
- 230 Wilson's Snipe.
- 367 Short-eared Owl.
- 641 Blue-winged Warbler.
- 662 Blackburnian Warbler.
- 671 Pine Warbler.
- 682 Hooded Warbler.
- 686 Canadian Warbler.
- 718 Carolina Wren.
- 724 Short-billed Marsh Wren.



The following birds are said to breed in Rhode Island but no accurate or satisfactory nesting data is available. For this reason they have been omitted in this book.

# A. O. U.

- 6 Pied-billed Grebe.
- 140 Blue-winged Teal.
- 144 Wood Duck.
- 167 Ruddy Duck.
- 214 Sora Rail.
- 219 Florida Gallinule.
- 230 Wilson's Snipe.
- 367 Short-eared Owl.
- 641 Blue-winged Warbler.
- 662 Blackburnian Warbler.
- 671 Pine Warbler.
- 682 Hooded Warbler.
- 686 Canadian Warbler.
- 718 Carolina Wren.
- 724 Short-billed Marsh Wren.

